

Chairman Towns discussed his investigation of security lapses that may have occurred at the National Central Bureau on Federal News Radio's "Federal Drive" program. Chairman Towns [wrote to Attorney General Eric Holder and Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano](#)

after the release of a Justice Department Inspector General report which outlined major lapses at the bureau.

[To listen to the interview, click here.](#)

The DOJ IG concluded that the USNCB had not made critical information available to the appropriate law enforcement agencies in the United States, nor had it implemented a process to ensure that information Interpol provided to domestic law enforcement agencies was accurate, complete and timely.

The Justice Department IG report also found that USNCB's internal case management system had several flaws and that USNCB was not able to consistently share information because it was not informed of actions taken by domestic law enforcement agencies on Interpol-related cases. Additionally, the IG report found that USNCB's leadership structure had inherent weaknesses, DOJ and DHS's oversight of USNCB was lacking and that USNCB faced challenges maintaining reliable communications with state and local liaisons.

In letter to Attorney General Eric Holder and DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano, Chairman Towns wrote, "In today's interconnected world, it is imperative that the U.S. law enforcement community take full advantage of Interpol's important information and communications tools. The IG report indicates that much work needs to be done before the U.S. can fully benefit from its status as an Interpol member."

Chairman Towns requested that Attorney General Holder and DHS Secretary Napolitano respond to his inquiry by Friday, June 11, 2010.

